

Appl. No. 10/782,324
Reply dated August 8, 2005

REMARKS

This reply is filed in order to provide a complete written statement as to the telephone interview with the Examiner on July 8, 2005 and to meet the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.111, 1.133, and 1.135.

In order to provide a complete and proper recordation of the substance of the telephone interview with the Examiner, applicants provide the following response:

1) Identification of the Claims Discussed

Claims 1, 4, and 11 were discussed.

2) Identification of the Principal Proposed Amendments of a Substantive Nature Discussed

The Examiner proposed incorporating all of the limitations of claim 4 into independent claims 1 and 11. Applicants proposed incorporating only the structure of the angled region having a reduction in cross section for forming a predetermined buckling point as outlined in the proposal filed by applicants on July 8, 2005.

3) Brief Identification of the General Thrust of the Principal Arguments of the Applicants and the Examiner

Applicants argued that incorporation the feature of the reduction in cross-section would render the claims allowable and that the specific cross-sectional profile (i.e., T-shape or rectangle) was not at the heart of the invention (see proposal filed on July 8, 2005).

The Examiner disagreed with applicants' point of view and, upon consultation with other Examiners, concluded that Smith et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,009,613) show the reduced cross

Appl. No. 10/782,324
Reply dated August 8, 2005

section and profile. The Examiner therefore found it necessary to make a final rejection of amended claims 1 and 3-11.

4) Results and Outcome of the Interview

No agreement was reached. Subsequent to the interview, the Examiner issued a final Office action (dated July 13, 2005) and rejected claims 1 and 3-11 as being unpatentable over Tomaru (U.S. Patent No. 5,531,317) in view of Smith et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,009,623).

The above summary is believed to be a sufficient record of the substance of the telephone interview. Please charge any fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,

Manfred Beck

For Applicants

MANFRED BECK
REG. NO. 45,342

MB:cgm

August 8, 2005

Lerner and Greenberg, P.A.
P.O. Box 2480
Hollywood, Florida 33022-2480
Tel.: (954) 925-1100
Fax: (954) 925-1101